Interactive comment on “Ecological adaptation as an important factor in environmental flow assessments based on an integrated multi-objective method” by T. Sun et al.

Anonymous Referee #1

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General comments: The paper made a good perspective on the evaluation of environmental flows assessment by using an integrated multi-objective method. The methods and ideas in this paper showed great innovation and values to environmental flows research and sustainable water resources management. Meantime, the manuscript needs a little improvement in some issues before it is accepted for publication.

Specific comments: 1) At line 24-27 of page 10: “When all of the studied species are considered, 25% and 112% of the average 25 annual river discharge were defined as the environmental flow boundaries, which were set according to the minimum requirements of the Crab and maximum requirements of the Jellyfish.” On what grounds should environmental flow boundaries be defined by minimum requirements of the Crab and maximum requirements of the Jellyfish?

Technical corrections: 1) The writing of For instance, at the first sentence of part 2.1 Consideration of a typical representative species: “Our a priori hypothesis for this evaluation was that...” should be altered with “Our one priori hypothesis for this evaluation was that...”. 2) At line 18 of page 13: “A favourable adaptable relationship was established...”, in which “favourable” should be altered with “favourably”, if I am right.

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